



Council of the  
European Union

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**NOTE**

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
No. Cion doc.:	ST 13880/20 + ADD1
Subject:	Recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations for a new fisheries agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Norway - Examination of the Presidency compromise

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**DOCUMENT PARTIALLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC (05.09.2023)**

Delegations will find hereto a draft COUNCIL DECISION to authorise the opening of negotiations for a new fisheries agreement between the European Union and the Kingdom of Norway.

The draft includes some changes compared to the previous document to reflect recent practice in similar cases and to take into account the discussion at the Informal VTC of the members of the Working Party and the written comments received.

Changes are marked in *bold italics* (new text).

This document will be discussed in the Working Party on Internal and External Fisheries Policy on 21 November 2021.

## ANNEX

### Directives for the negotiation of a new fisheries agreement with the Kingdom of Norway

1. The objective of the negotiations is to conclude a new agreement that lays down the general principles and objectives of the Union's fisheries relations with Norway and establishes a framework for the management of shared fish stocks and for reciprocal access to waters and resources.
2. The agreement should cover cooperation on the development of measures for the sustainable exploitation and conservation of resources, including the avoidance of discarding.
3. The agreement will establish an appropriate institutional framework for cooperation on the conservation and management of the shared fish stocks allowing a coherent approach to the management of shared stocks in view of other agreements possibly agreed by the EU for the parties concerned.

In particular, the Commission should aim to:

- ensure that such measures are non-discriminatory and follow a science-based approach in line with the objective of achieving maximum sustainable yield for the stocks concerned;
- include provisions on cooperation on control and enforcement, data collection and scientific advice;
- secure continued responsible fisheries that ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable exploitation of marine biological resources, in line with the relevant principles under international law;
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- preserve existing reciprocal access conditions and stable quota shares, which can be adjusted only with the parties' consent;
- include modalities for quota transfers and exchanges, and for the setting of annual or multi-annual total allowable catches or effort limitations on the basis of long-term management strategies;
- include modalities for issuing fishing authorisations and provisions that ensure equality of treatment and compliance, including joint control and inspection activities.

4. The bilateral negotiations on the reciprocal access conditions and quota shares on fisheries between the European Union and the Kingdom of Norway should take into account the outcomes following the negotiations of the trilateral Fisheries Agreement of the Union with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Kingdom of Norway, covering stocks occurring in Union waters as well in the waters under the sovereignty and jurisdiction of the United Kingdom and of the Kingdom of Norway.

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6. The agreement should be concluded timely in order to ensure that it replaces the current Agreement by 2023. It should therefore contain a clause repealing the Agreement.

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